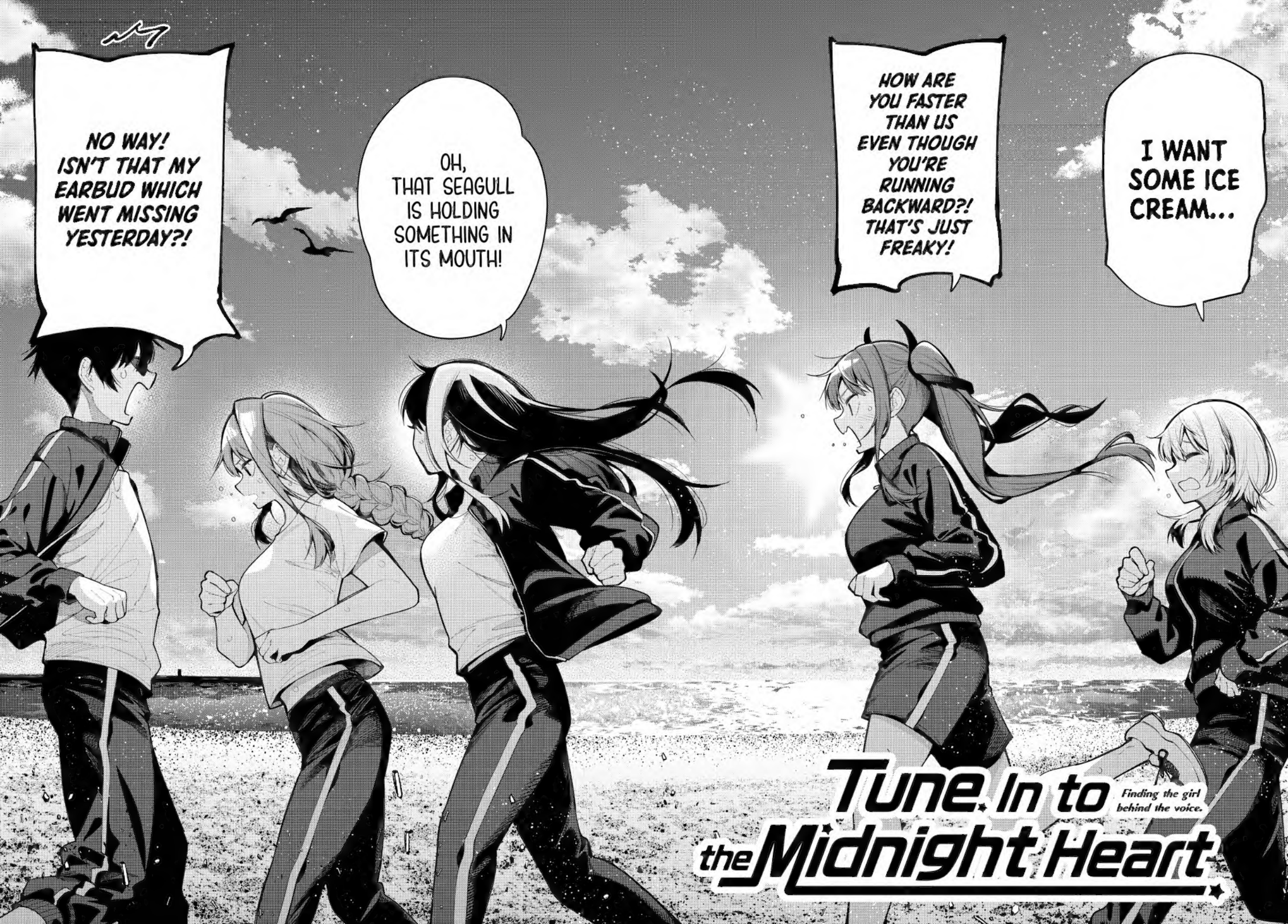
THUD
THUD
THUD
THUD

THIS EARLY MORNING RUN SHOULD ALLOW YOUR VOICES...
TO REACH EVEN GREATER HEIGHTS!
A HEALTHY VOICE STARTS WITH A HEALTHY BODY!

PANT はっ
PANT はっ
PANT はっ
PANT はっ
...
THE MORNING SEA BREEZE IS PRETTY NICE, THOUGH!
I'M DEAD...
6 A.M. IS STILL WAY TOO EARLY, YOU IDIOT!


NO WAY! ISN'T THAT MY EARBUD WHICH WENT MISSING YESTERDAY?!
OH, THAT SEAGULL IS HOLDING SOMETHING IN ITS MOUTH!
HOW ARE YOU FASTER THAN US EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE RUNNING BACKWARD?! THAT'S JUST FREAKY!
I WANT SOME ICE CREAM...
Tune In to the Midnight Heart
Finding the girl behind the voice.

WELL DONE! THAT SHOULD BE IT FOR THE WARM-UP!

はぁ PANT

はぁ PANT

はぁ PANT

はぁ PANT

MY HEART'S GOING A MILE AN HOUR!

ぺり

THUMP

HOW ARE YOU NOT EVEN FAZED BY ANY OF THIS?!

YOU REALLY PISS ME OFF!

HAHAHA

BEING **NERVOUS** OR **EXCITED** IS THE CAUSE BEHIND FAST HEART RATES, BY THE WAY.

OH? DO YOU HAVE AN IRREGULAR PULSE, PERHAPS?

*ARE YOU ACTUALLY SERIOUS ABOUT WHAT YOU SAID YESTERDAY ?!*

...DOWN THE RIGHT PATH AND TURN THEM INTO TRUE PROFESSIONALS!

...OR THE MOST WATCHED VTUBER EVER!

...A TOP VOICE ACTRESS...

...AN ANNOUNCER FOR FLAGSHIP STATIONS...

...BE IT A PRESTIGIOUS SINGER...

...THAT I'LL GUIDE ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE BROADCASTING CLUB...

*WHY ARE YOU ACTING LIKE OUR COACH?!*

*BUT NEVER MIND THAT!*

TAKE YOUR DAMN SUN-GLASSES OFF!

UH... WHO ARE YOU AGAIN?

I AM, AS A MATTER OF FACT.

CALM DOWN, NENE-CHAN.

First you want me to take them off, and now you don't?!

DON'T TAKE THEM OFF IN SUCH A COOL WAY!

SWIP

YOU NEEDN'T WORRY. I'M VERY MUCH A MAN WHO IS AS GOOD AS HIS WORD.

GRR ...!!

DIDN'T YOU COME HERE WITH THAT IN MIND, NENE?

IT'S TRUE THAT WE'VE BEEN SLACKING OFF.

WE ALL TALKED ABOUT TRAINING UP, TOO, SO THIS IS PERFECT FOR US.

SKUFF

GOING PRO IS NO SMALL GOAL, THOUGH.

WHY ARE YOU SO SERIOUS ABOUT THIS WITH US?

ARE YOU REALLY JUST THAT MUCH OF A PERFECTIONIST?

...

CAN WE REALLY ...

...TRUST YOU?

ASPIRING SINGER
RIKKA INOHANA

THERE'S SOMETHING DIFFERENT ABOUT HER TODAY...

OF COURSE YOU CAN.

THERE'S NO MAN MORE RELIABLE THAN ME!

CARE TO BACK UP YOUR CLAIM, GOFER BOY?

SURE.

BUT LET'S HAVE BREAKFAST FIRST.

I-I WANT TO STOP BY OUR CLUB ROOM FIRST!

WHAT? IT'S IMPORTANT TO GET SOME NUTRIENTS RIGHT AFTER WORKING OUT!

SAME!

LET'S GO TO A RESTAURANT.

UH... I-I'M NOT SURE IF WE SHOULD...

SWF SWF SWF SWF SWF SWF SWF

WHAT ARE YOU ALL...

THUNK THUNK THUNK THUNK THUNK THUNK THUNK THUNK THUNK THUNK

WHY ARE YOU RUNNING AWAY?!

KREEEEN

YOU DUMB-ASS!

WE'RE ALL SWEATY NOW, SO WE NEED TO GET CHANGED! HAVE SOME COMMON SENSE!

AH HA HA! SORRY ABOUT THIS.

ASPIRING ANNOUNCER SHINOBU UZUKI

ASPIRING VOICE ACTRESS NENE HIMEKAWA

YOU DON'T UNDER-STAND A DAMN THING!

WORRY NOT. I'LL PICK A RESTAURANT THAT DOESN'T HAVE A DRESS CODE!

I SEE. I UNDERSTAND EVERYTHING NOW.

DART

DART

DART

Lenny's

I'M SO HUNGRY! WHAT SHOULD I HAVE, I WONDER?

ICE CREAM... THERE'S NO ICE CREAM SECTION!

Dessert

Derry

ASPIRING VTUBER

IKO. KIRINO

MUNCH

MUNCH

YOU NEED TO FLIP THE MENU OVER TO FIND IT.

WHY IS RIKKA'S DORIA THE ONLY THING THAT'S ARRIVED?!

SORRY TO INTERRUPT THE FESTIVITIES...

BUT MAY I HAVE A FEW MOMENTS...

CHATTER

CHATTER

MURMUR

MURMUR

...OF YOUR TIME?

HEY, ARE YOU LISTENING?

LISTEN TO ME!

"YOU POMPOUS JACKASS! WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE, ACTING LIKE OUR COACH?" THAT'S WHAT YOU TOLD ME, ISN'T IT, HIMEKAWA?

I'M PRETTY SURE I DIDN'T SAY THAT.

I'D LIKE YOU ALL TO HAVE A LOOK AT THESE.

WHAT IS THIS?

FLOMP

FLOMP

THEY'RE ALL PERFECTLY TAILORED TO EACH ONE OF YOU.

ONE LITTLE LOOK SHOULD TELL YOU THE DEPTH AND BREADTH OF MY KNOWL-EDGE.

I'VE ALSO INCLUDED ANY REFERENTIAL MATERIALS THAT MIGHT BE HELPFUL.

THESE DOCUMENTS DETAIL YOUR ISSUES, AS WELL AS TRAINING PROGRAMS TO REMEDY THEM.

YOU REALLY DID YOUR RESEARCH...

WOW, THIS IS SO DETAILED ...

WHY DO I HAVE DOUBLE THE AMOUNT OF PAPER?!

IT'S BECAUSE OF ALL THE KANJI EXERCISES.

YOU NEED TO MASTER YOUR KANJI FIRST.

I ALSO GAVE YOU ALL SOME NEAR-TERM GOALS TO ACHIEVE BEFORE GOING PRO.

MY GOAL IS TO "AUDITION FOR AN AGENCY."

OH? THE ANNOUNCER 101 COURSE, HUH?

MY GOAL IS TO PASS THE LEVEL 2 KANKEN* TEST?! THE HELL?!

*THE KANJI KENTEI, OR KANKEN FOR SHORT, IS AN APTITUDE TEST THAT EVALUATES ONE'S KANJI KNOWLEDGE. THERE ARE 12 LEVELS (LEVELS 10 THROUGH 3, PRE-2, 2, PRE-1, AND 1) WITH LEVEL 10 BEING THE EASIEST. PASSING THE LEVEL 2 TEST WOULD REQUIRE NENE TO KNOW HOW TO READ AND WRITE ALL THE 2,136 DAILY USE KANJI.

WHAT ABOUT YOU, RIKKA?

I NEED TO SELL FIFTY COPIES OF MY MUSIC CD...

...AT A STREET PERFOR-MANCE.

IT'S A GOOD WAY TO BUILD UP YOUR CON-FIDENCE AND EXPERIENCE, IS IT NOT?

YES

NOT REALLY.

WAIT, I GUESS I'VE TECHNICAL-LY DONE THAT?

I DO LIKE TO WHISTLE WITH MY MOUTH AFTER TAKING A BATH.

NOW YOU'RE JUST REACH-ING.

YAMABUKI-KUN...

HAVE YOU EVER PLAYED AN INSTRUMENT BEFORE?

I DON'T.

BUT...

IF YOU WANT TO BECOME A PRO, YOU'LL NEED TO GO DOWN THIS ROAD ANYWAY, WON'T YOU?

DO YOU KNOW HOW MUCH COURAGE IT TAKES TO STAND IN FRONT OF A CROWD...

...AND SING FOR THEM WHILE ALSO PLAYING AN INSTRUMENT?

NOPE.

I'M A YAMABUKI. NERVOUSNESS IS NOT A CONCEPT TO ME.

SURELY, THERE WERE TIMES WHEN YOU WERE SO NERVOUS YOUR HANDS WOULDN'T STOP SHAKING, RIGHT?

SMACK

YOU BIG FAT LIAR.

YOU'RE ONE OF THOSE PEOPLE WHO ARE ALL TALK AND NO ACTION, AREN'T YOU?

SQUEEZE

MNGH?!

LOVE

YOU'VE NEVER BEEN NERVOUS IN YOUR LIFE?

I'M GOING HOME.

WHAT?! H-HEY!

I DON'T SEE WHY I SHOULD DO AS YOU SAY.

DID I SCREW UP JUST NOW?!

EXCUSE ME, CAN I GET ANOTHER ICE CREAM?

OFF WITH HIS HEAD, I'D SAY!

OH BOY. HE MADE HER MAD.

HEY! THAT'S MY PAR-FAIT!

MUNCH

...EVER SINCE YOU WERE BORN.

MUNCH

YOU'VE DONE NOTHING BUT SCREW UP...

Ah ha ha ha!

I'M JUST MESSING WITH YOU!

SHE WAS ALL SMILES WHEN WE FIRST MET...

WHISPER

YOU'RE HERE...

...TO SEE ME, RIGHT?

I MADE HER MAD, HUH?

I MEAN, HASN'T SHE BEEN AVOIDING ME LATELY?

I'VE NEVER EVEN HEARD HER SING BEFORE!

...

SHE DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING DURING THE MORNING RUN, EITHER.

PANT

...BUT THEN, SHE JUST KEPT SHUNNING ME MORE AND MORE.

I HAVEN'T EVEN SEEN THE SINGER GIRL!

NENE-CHAN, YOU SHOULDN'T PUT HIM DOWN LIKE THAT!

I'M JUST STATING FACTS! ♡

SHE'S GOOD ENOUGH TO WRITE HER OWN SONGS...

OF COURSE SHE'D BE MAD.

...YET, SOME IDIOT WHO'S ALL TALK AND CAN'T EVEN READ A MUSIC SHEET ACTED LIKE HE KNEW BETTER! WHO WOULDN'T BE MAD?

OH? BUCKY IS GONE.

POOF

THAT WAS OUTRIGHT VERBAL ABUSE!

NO ONE HAS EVER SAID THAT TO ME, EXCEPT MY BIG SISTER, MY LITTLE SISTER, AND MY MOTHER!

SO *SOMEONE* DID SAY THAT TO YOU BEFORE.

HUFF HUFF

PANT

はっ

I-I'M ALL TALK?! ME, A YAMA-BUKI?!!

WHOA, YOUR WORDS LITERALLY BROUGHT HIM TO HIS KNEES!

はっ PANT

はっ PANT

HEH HEH HEH HEH HEH...

SHAKE SHAKE

HEH...

SHAKE

SHAKE

DASH

ANYWAY, IT'S BATH-ROOM TIME FOR ME, SO I NEED TO GO!

BATHROOM TIME? THE HECK?

I SHALL SEE FOR MYSELF HOW GOOD SHE IS!

SINCE SHE SAID I'M ALL TALK, I'M SURE SHE MUST BE AN EXCELLENT MUSICIAN!

FWIP

EVERY WEDNESDAY AFTER CLASSES, RIKKA INOHANA WOULD PERFORM...

...IN THIS SCHOOL'S COURTYARD.

SHE'S BEEN DOING IT SINCE BACK WHEN THIS WAS AN ALL-GIRLS SCHOOL.

EVEN AFTER IT WENT CO-ED, THE BOYS DON'T REALLY GET TO HEAR HER SING (ACCORDING TO THE BOYS IN MY CLASS).

THE COURTYARD DOES GET PRETTY NOISY ON WEDNES-DAY.

I COULD HAVE NEVER GUESSED IT WAS DUE TO HER SINGING.

THAT SAID, A SHOW BY A STUDENT ...

MURMUR

MURMUR

...PROBABLY DOESN'T DRAW THAT BIG OF A CROWD...

YAY YAY YAY YAY

I'LL SING FOR A BIT.

I HOPE YOU'LL ENJOY MY SONGS!

THANK YOU ALL FOR SHOWING UP HERE EVERY WEEK!

MURMUR

MURMUR

MURMUR

SQUEE
I UNDER-ESTIMATED HER POP-ULARITY!
SQUEE
SQUEE
H-HER AUDIENCE IS BIGGER THAN I EXPECTED!

WAIT! I'M A BROAD-CASTING CLUB MEM-BER!
I WON'T DO ANYTHING, SO LET ME LISTEN TO HER SONGS!

TIE HIM UP AND SACRIFICE HIM!
RAGH
A BOY IS HERE TO LISTEN TO RIKKA'S SONGS!
KEEP YOUR PERVY EYES OFF RIKKA-CHAN!
RAGH
RAGH
RAGH

HMM?

TWANG
TANG
TANG
I WONDER IF YOU ALL CAN TELL.
I STILL GET NERVOUS, NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES I DO THIS.
AH HA HA!
I WONDER IF YOU CAN TELL.
HAAH... I STILL GET NERVOUS, NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES I DO THIS.
SORRY IF I SOUND OFF-KEY, OKAY?

APOLLO
HAS STARTED
BROADCASTING
MIDNIGHT HEART
TUNE

SO THAT'S WHAT...

...INO-HANA'S SONGS ARE LIKE...

NOW I SEE WHY SHE CALLED ME A GOOD-FOR-NOTHING PIECE OF TRASH WHO'S ALL TALK.

I GUESS I'D BETTER SWALLOW MY PRIDE...

...I SAW A GLIMPSE OF APOLLO.

WHEN I HEARD HER SING...

I'm sorry...

...for every-thing!

IS HE HERE TO APOLOGIZE FOR HIS ARRO-GANCE?

YAY

YAY

YAY

YAY

YAMABUKI-KUN'S BEEN COMING TO MY SHOW EVERY WEEK SINCE THEN...

I DON'T EVEN WANT YOU TO LISTEN TO MY SONGS IN THE FIRST PLACE.

SWF

I DON'T LIKE THIS AT ALL.

THE ONE FROM THAT VIRAL VIDEO? I LOVE IT!

WOW

WOW

WOW

THE DANCE IS JUST SO ADOR-ABLE!

CAN YOU PULL IT OFF, RIKKA-CHAN?

YAY

YAY

YAY

YAY

YAY

ALL RIGHT, I'LL DO ONE LAST SONG!

IF YOU DON'T HAVE ANY REQUEST ...

I WANT TO HEAR THAT NEW KINFRI SONG!

YEAH.
LYRICS FOR LIVE SHOWS
NEW SONGS
OF COURSE I CAN.
Thank you!
!!!
WELL, IF IT ISN'T MR. ALL-TALK.
STOP CALLING ME THAT!
YOU'VE BEEN SHOWING UP TO HEAR ME SING LATELY.
ARE YOU JUST THAT SMITTEN WITH ME?
Heh heh heh

I'M SURE YOUR STREET PERFORMANCE WILL BE A HIT, TOO!

ALLOW ME TO APOLOGIZE FOR MAKING LIGHT OF YOUR CAPABILITY!

YES! YOUR SONGS WERE FANTASTIC AND MOVING!

BAM

YOU CAN BUTTER ME UP ALL YOU LIKE...

...BUT DON'T THINK THAT'LL CONVINCE ME TO DO WHATEVER YOU SAY.

DID YOU COME TO ALL MY SHOWS...

...JUST TO FLATTER ME AND GET ON MY GOOD SIDE AGAIN?

WHISPER

HE'S SMITTEN WITH RIKKA-CHAN, I'M SURE.

HASN'T THAT BOY BEEN SHOWING UP EVERY WEEK?

WHISPER

WHISPER

...

TMP

LATER!

YOU'RE COMING TO MY SHOW TODAY, TOO, HUH?

ARE YOU GOING TO DO A SHOW?

THANK YOU!

HE'S BEEN ABSENT FROM THE CLUB FOR A WHILE, TOO.

YAMABUKI-KUN DIDN'T COME TO MY SHOW LAST WEEK, THOUGH.

HE HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH ANYTHING, YET I TOOK IT OUT ON HIM...

I GUESS I SHOULDN'T HAVE SAID ALL THAT.

CHATTER CHATTER CHATTER

OH NO, I'M LATE!

THERE'S ALREADY SO MANY PEOPLE...

SORRY, EVERYONE!

DASH

YABBER YABBER

I'LL APOLOGIZE TO HIM THE NEXT TIME I SEE HIM...

BOO
BOO
YOU SUCK! SELL YOUR GUITAR!
COME ON NOW! DON'T SAY THAT WHEN I'VE ONLY PERFORMED ONE SONG!
OH.
BOO
BOO
BOO
THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH FOR COMING TO MY FIRST SOLO SHOW!
WE'RE NOT HERE FOR YOU!
SCREW YOU! GIVE US RIKKA-CHAN INSTEAD!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

SORRY FOR HIJACKING YOUR SHOW!

LONG TIME NO SEE, INOHANA!

REMEMBER HOW YOU SAID THAT I'M ALL TALK?!

A SHOW, OBVIOUSLY!

ALL SO THAT I CAN SURPRISE YOU!

THAT'S WHY I'VE BEEN LEARNING HOW TO PLAY A GUITAR AND SING IN SECRET!

YOU LEARNED TO PLAY A GUITAR, JUST FOR THAT?

SURPRISE ME?

GOSH... YOU'RE SIMPLY ABSURD.

WOO

HUH?! HOW ARE WE EVEN GOING TO DO THIS?!

...BUT I'LL BE PERFORMING ALONGSIDE HIM TODAY!

SORRY. I FORGOT TO TELL YOU ALL...

O-OKAAAY?!

I'LL BACK YOU UP.

YOU CAN PLAY HOWEVER YOU LIKE.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

UGH. MY SHOW WAS PRETTY MUCH A MESS.

SORRY.

YOU REALLY SUCKED AT PLAYING GUITAR.

SO, HOW WAS IT? YOU GOT NERVOUS, RIGHT?

YOUR HEART WAS POUNDING, WASN'T IT?

LIKE I SAID BEFORE, I DON'T GET NERVOUS.

I'VE BEEN THROUGH ALL MANNER OF HELLS.

THAT'S WHY I HAVE NERVES OF STEEL. TITANIUM, EVEN.

AGAIN WITH THAT NONSENSE ...

IS ANY OF IT EVEN TRUE?

ALL OF IT, YES.

...

HMMM...

?!
WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
THUNK
LEAN

# CHAPTER 3: LIAR